

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 09/837,687 Confirmation No. 7848  
Applicant : Paolo Palmas et al.  
Filed : April 18, 2001  
TC/A.U. : 1764  
Examiner : Alexa D. Neckel  
  
Docket No. : 105345  
Customer No. : 23490

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL**

Sir:

In reply to the Final Office action mailed June 20, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.

OK to  
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7/24/06